



APPENDIX

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IN THE CLAIMS

The claims are amended as follows:

Please cancel claims 5-6, 12, 16-18, and 20-27.

1. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 33 wherein said body includes [for maintaining a body lumen opening comprising a stent in the form of a tube having an axis and having] a flared distal end and a flared proximal end and a bulbous middle section.
2. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim [1] 33 wherein a cross-sectional view of said tube in a plane orthogonal to said axis shows an irregular shape of said wall.
7. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 33 wherein said body includes [for maintaining a body lumen opening comprising a stent in the form of a tube including] a flexible wall, and said stent includes [having] a wall adjustment apparatus for expanding and contracting a diameter of said tube.
10. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim [1] 33 wherein said tube is in the form of a balloon.
11. An apparatus as recited in claim 10 wherein said [structure] balloon includes an inner wall defining a lumen through said tube, and said [structure] balloon having an outer wall that expands upon inflation of said balloon to form said nonlinear outline [bulbous middle section].
13. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim [1] 33 wherein said stent further includes a coating of material on an outside of said [tube] wall.
28. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim [1] 33 wherein said stent includes a portion constructed from super elastic material.

31. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim [1] 33 wherein said tube includes slotted end sections and a slotted middle section to form separated ribs.
33. (New) An apparatus for maintaining a body lumen opening comprising a stent having a tubular shaped body wall with a linear central axis when said stent is in a relaxed state, and wherein a cross section of said body, including said axis, displays a length of said wall having a nonlinear shaped outline, and wherein said nonlinear outline is for the purpose of providing resistance with a lumen wall upon installation of said stent in said lumen.